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# BOUNDEDNESS OF OPERATORS ON BESOV SPACES ON A FRACTAL SET (Potential Theory and its Related Fields)

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# BOUNDEDNESS OF OPERATORS ON BESOV SPACES ON A FRACTAL SET

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $D$  be a bounded domain in  $\mathbf{R}^d$  ( $d \geq 2$ ) such that the boundary  $\partial D$  of  $D$  is a  $\beta$ -set satisfying  $d - 1 \leq \beta < d$ . We say that a closed set  $F$  is a  $\beta$ -set if there exist a positive Radon measure  $\mu$  on  $F$  and positive real numbers  $b_1, b_2, r_0$  such that

$$(1.1) \quad b_1 r^\beta \leq \mu(B(x, r) \cap F) \leq b_2 r^\beta$$

for all  $z \in F$  and all  $r \leq r_0$ , where  $B(z, r)$  stands for the open ball in  $\mathbf{R}^d$  with center  $z$  and radius  $r$ . Such a measure  $\mu$  is called a  $\beta$ -measure.

We give examples.

1. If  $D$  is a bounded Lipschitz domain in  $\mathbf{R}^d$ , then  $\partial D$  is a  $(d - 1)$ -set and the surface measure is a  $(d - 1)$ -measure.

2. If  $\partial D$  consists of a finite number of self-similar sets, which satisfies the open set condition, and whose similarity dimensions are  $\beta$ , then  $\partial D$  is a  $\beta$ -set and the  $\beta$ -dimensional Hausdorff measure restricted to  $\partial D$  is a  $\beta$ -measure. The Von Koch snowflake is a typical example for  $d = 2$  and  $\beta = \log 4 / \log 3$ .

We consider Besov spaces on a  $\beta$ -set  $\partial D$ . In general let  $F$  be a closed  $\beta$ -set in  $\mathbf{R}^d$  and  $\mu$  be a  $\beta$ -measure on  $F$ . Let  $0 \leq \beta - (d - 1) < \alpha \leq 1$ . We define a Besov space  $A_\alpha^p(F)$  by the Banach space of all function  $f \in L^p(\mu)$  such that

$$\iint \frac{|f(x) - f(z)|^p}{|x - z|^{\beta + p\alpha}} d\mu(x) d\mu(z) < \infty$$

with norm

$$\|f\|_{\alpha, p} = \left( \int |f(x)|^p d\mu(x) \right)^{1/p} + \left( \iint \frac{|f(x) - f(z)|^p}{|x - z|^{\beta + p\alpha}} d\mu(x) d\mu(z) \right)^{1/p}.$$

Hereafter we shall fix a  $\beta$ -measure  $\mu$  on  $\partial D$  and suppose  $\overline{D} \subset B(0, R/2)$  with  $R \geq 1$ . We may assume that (1.1) replaced  $F$  with  $\partial D$  holds for all  $z \in \partial D$  and all  $r \leq 3R$ .

Further we denote by  $\mathcal{V}(G)$  the Whitney decomposition of an open set  $G$  (cf. [S]) and simply set  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}(\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \partial D)$ .

According to Jonsson-Wallin, we constructed in [W3] an extension operator  $\mathcal{E}$  having the following properties.

**Proposition A** *Assume that  $\overline{D} \subset B(0, R/2)$ . Then there exists a linear operator  $\mathcal{E}$  from  $L^p(\mu)$  to  $L^p(\mathbf{R}^d)$  having the properties (i)-(vi):*

- (i)  $\mathcal{E}(f)$  is a  $C^\infty$ -function in  $\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \partial D$ ,
- (ii)  $\mathcal{E}(f) = f$  on  $\partial D$ ,
- (iii)  $\text{supp } \mathcal{E}(f) \subset \overline{B(0, 2R)}$ ,
- (iv)  $\mathcal{E}(1) = 1$  on  $\overline{B(0, R)}$ ,
- (v)

$$\int |\mathcal{E}(f)|^p dy \leq c \int |f|^p d\mu,$$

where  $c$  is a constant independent  $f$ ,

- (vi) Let  $Q \in \mathcal{V}$  be a cube with common side-length  $l$ . Then, for each  $y \in Q \cap B(0, 2R)$ ,

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \mathcal{E}(f)(y) \right| \leq cl^{-\beta-1} \int_{B(a, sl)} |f(z)| d\mu(z) \quad (i = 1, \dots, d),$$

where  $a$  is a boundary point satisfying  $\text{dist}(\partial D, Q) = \text{dist}(a, Q)$  and  $s = 6\sqrt{d}$ , and  $c$  is a constant independent of  $l$ ,  $y$  and  $f$ .

We note that  $\text{dist}(A, B)$  stands for the distance between a set  $A$  and  $B$ .

In the above Besov space our aim is to prove the boundedness of the operators  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ , which are important to solve the Dirichlet problem for  $D$  and  $\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}$  by layer potential method.

The operators  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are defined as follows: Define, for  $f \in \Lambda_\alpha^p(\partial D)$  and  $z \in \partial D$ ,

$$K_1 f(z) = \int_{\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}} \langle \nabla_y \mathcal{E}(f)(y), \nabla_y N(z - y) \rangle dy$$

and if it is well-defined and  $K_1 f(z) = 0$  otherwise, and

$$K_2 f(z) = - \int_D \langle \nabla_y \mathcal{E}(f)(y), \nabla_y N(z - y) \rangle dy$$

if it is well-defined and  $K_2 f(z) = 0$  otherwise, where

$$N(x - y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\omega_d(d-2)|x-y|^{d-2}} & \text{if } d \geq 3 \\ -\frac{3R}{2\pi} \log \frac{|x-y|}{3R} & \text{if } d = 2 \end{cases}$$

and  $\omega_d$  stands for the surface area of the unit ball in  $\mathbf{R}^d$ .

But it is difficult to prove directly the boundedness of  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  on  $\Lambda_\alpha^p(\partial D)$ . So we introduce another Besov spaces  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^+$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-$ , which are near spaces to  $\Lambda_\alpha^p(\partial D)$ . The

space  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^+$  (resp.  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-$ ) is, for  $p, \alpha$  satisfying  $p > 1$  and  $p - p\alpha - d + \beta > 0$ , defined to be the Banach space of all  $f \in L^p(\mu)$  satisfying

$$\int_D |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy < \infty$$

(resp.  $\int_{\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy < \infty$ ),

with norm

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^+} := \left( \int |f|^p d\mu \right)^{1/p} + \left( \int_D |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy \right)^{1/p}$$

(resp.  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-} := \left( \int |f|^p d\mu \right)^{1/p} + \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy \right)^{1/p}$ ),

where  $\delta(y)$  stands for the distance of  $y$  from  $\partial D$ .

Hereafter we assume that  $p > 1$  and  $1 - (d - \beta) < \alpha < 1 - \frac{d-\beta}{p}$  and denote by  $G$  the set  $D$  or  $\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}$ .

To study the relations of  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-$  or  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^+$  and  $\Lambda_\alpha^p(\partial D)$ , we introduce the following maximal function on  $\partial D \times \partial D$ . To do so, define

$$F_0 = \{y \in \mathbf{R}^d; \delta(y) \leq \frac{R}{10}\}$$

and fix a real number  $b$  satisfying  $1 < b \leq 11/10$ . We define, for  $h \in L^p(\mu \times \mu)$  and  $y \in G \cap F_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & M(\mu \times \mu)h(y) \\ &= \sup \left\{ \frac{1}{\mu(B(y,r) \cap \partial D)^2} \int_{B(y,r) \cap \partial D} \int_{B(y,r) \cap \partial D} |h(x,z)| d\mu(x) d\mu(z); \right. \\ & \quad \left. b\delta(y) \leq r \leq \frac{R}{4} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Denote by  $\nu_0$  the positive measure on  $G$  defined by

$$(1.2) \quad \nu_0(E) = \int_{E \cap G \cap F_0} \delta(y)^{2\beta-d} dy$$

for a Borel set  $E$ .

We shall obtain the following lemma in §2.

**Lemma 1.1** (i) Let  $t > 0$ ,  $h \in L^1(\mu \times \mu)$  and set

$$E_t = \{y \in G \cap F_0; M(\mu \times \mu)h(y) > t\}.$$

Then

$$\nu_0(E_t) \leq ct^{-1} \iint |h(x, z)| d\mu(x) d\mu(z),$$

where  $c$  is a constant independent of  $f$  and  $t$ .

(ii) Let  $p > 1$  and  $h \in L^p(\mu \times \mu)$ . Then

$$\int M(\mu \times \mu) h(y)^p d\nu_0(y) \leq c \iint |h(x, z)|^p d\mu(x) d\mu(z).$$

The above lemma will be applied to prove the following theorem in §3.

**Theorem 1** Let  $p > 1$  and  $0 \leq 1 - (d - \beta) < \alpha < 1 - (d - \beta)/p$ . Further let  $f \in \Lambda_\alpha^p(\partial D)$ . Then

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^d} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy \leq c \|f\|_{p,\alpha}^p,$$

where  $c$  is a constant independent of  $f$ .

We shall also introduce another maximal function. To do so, we define two measures. Fix a real number  $b$  satisfying  $1 < b \leq 11/10$  and let  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}$  satisfying  $d - \beta + \lambda > 0$ . The measure  $\tau_{\lambda,G}^+$  (resp.  $\tau_{\lambda,G}^-$ ) is defined by

$$\tau_{\lambda,G}^+(E) = \int_{E \cap G \cap F_0} \delta(y)^\lambda dy \quad (\text{resp. } \tau_{\lambda,G}^-(E) = \int_{E \cap (F_0 \setminus \overline{G})} \delta(y)^\lambda dy)$$

for a Borel measurable set  $E$ . We use  $\tau_\lambda^+$  (resp.  $\tau_\lambda^-$ ) instead of  $\tau_{\lambda,G}^+$  (resp.  $\tau_{\lambda,G}^-$ ) if there is no confusion.

Let  $u \in L^1(\tau_\lambda^-)$ . The maximal function  $M(\tau_\lambda^-)u$  is defined by

$$M(\tau_\lambda^-)u(y) = \sup \left\{ \frac{1}{\tau_\lambda^-(B(y, r))} \int_{B(y, r)} |u(x)| d\tau_\lambda^-(x); b\delta(y) \leq r \leq \frac{R}{4} \right\}$$

for  $y \in G \cap F_0$ .

We say that  $G$  satisfies the condition (b) if there exist a constant  $c$  and  $r_1 > 0$  such that

$$(1.3) \quad |B(z, r) \cap G| \geq cr^d$$

for each  $z \in \partial D$  and each  $r \leq r_1$ , where  $|A|$  stands for the  $d$ -dimensional volume of a set  $A$ . We note that, if  $G$  satisfies the condition (b), we may assume that (1.3) holds for  $r \leq 3R$ .

We shall prove the following lemma in §2.

**Lemma 1.2** *Let  $d - \beta + \lambda > 0$  and assume that  $\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{G}$  satisfies the condition (b).  
(i) Let  $t > 0$  and  $u \in L^1(\tau_\lambda^-)$ , and set*

$$E_t = \{y \in G \cap F_0; M(\tau_\lambda^-)u(y) > t\}.$$

*Then*

$$\tau_\lambda^+(E_t) \leq \frac{c}{s} \int |u| d\tau_\lambda^-(x),$$

*where  $c$  is a constant independent of  $u$  and  $s$ .*

*(ii) Let  $p > 1$ . Then*

$$\int M(\tau_\lambda^-)u(y)^p d\tau_\lambda^+(y) \leq c \int |u(x)|^p d\tau_\lambda^-(x)$$

*for every  $u \in L^p(\tau_\lambda^-)$ .*

This lemma will be useful to prove the following theorem in §4.

**Theorem 2** *Assume that  $D$  is a bounded domain in  $\mathbf{R}^d$  such that  $\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}$  is also connected and  $\partial D$  is a  $\beta$ -set ( $d-1 \leq \beta < d$ ). Let  $p > 1$  and  $1-(d-\beta) < \alpha < 1-(d-\beta)/p$ .*

*(i) If  $\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}$  satisfies the condition (b), then  $K_1$  is a bounded operator from  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-$  to  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^+$ .*

*(ii) If  $D$  satisfies the condition (b), then  $K_2$  is a bounded operator from  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^+$  to  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-$ .*

## 2. Maximal functions

We begin with estimates for two measures  $\mu \times \mu$  and  $\nu_0$  defined by (1.2).

**Lemma 2.1** *Fix  $b$  satisfying  $1 < b \leq 11/10$ . Then*

$$\nu_0(B(y, r) \cap G) \leq c_1 r^{2\beta} \leq c_2 \int_{B(y, r) \cap \partial D} \int_{B(y, r) \cap \partial D} d\mu(x) d\mu(z)$$

*for every  $y \in G \cap F_0$  and every  $r$  satisfying  $b\delta(y) \leq r \leq (3/2)R$ .*

*Proof.* In [W1, Lemma 2.2] we saw that

$$(2.1) \quad \int_{B(z, \rho)} \delta(y)^k dy \leq c_1 \rho^{k+d}$$

for every  $z \in \partial D$  and every  $\rho \leq 3R$  if  $\beta - d < k$ .

Let  $y \in G \cap F_0$  and  $b\delta(y) \leq r \leq (3/2)R$ . Pick a point  $z_y \in \partial D$  satisfying  $\delta(y) = |y - z_y|$ . Noting that  $B(y, r) \subset B(z_y, 2r)$  and using (2.1), we have

$$\int_{B(y, r) \cap G} \delta(x)^{2\beta-d} dx \leq \int_{B(z_y, 2r)} \delta(x)^{2\beta-d} \leq c_2 r^{2\beta},$$

which shows the first inequality.

Since  $B(z_y, \frac{(b-1)}{b}r) \subset B(y, r)$  and  $\partial D$  is a  $\beta$ -set, we also get the second inequality.

□

Let us prove Lemma 1.1.

*Proof of Lemma 1.1.* Let  $h \in L^1(\mu \times \mu)$  and  $t > 0$ . Put

$$E_t = \{y \in G \cap F_0; M(\mu \times \mu)f(y) > t\}.$$

For each  $y \in E_t$ , there exists a ball  $B(y, r)$  with  $b\delta(y) \leq r \leq R/4$  such that

$$(2.2) \quad \int_{B(y,r) \cap \partial D} \int_{B(y,r) \cap \partial D} |h(x, z)| > t \int_{B(y,r) \cap \partial D} d\mu(x) \int_{B(y,r) \cap \partial D} d\mu(z).$$

Therefore we can find a countable covering  $\{B(y_i, r_i)\}$  of  $E_t$  such that  $B(y, r) = B(y_i, r_i)$  satisfies (2.2).

With the aid of Vitali's covering lemma we can choose a subfamily  $\{B(w_j, \rho_j)\}$  of  $\{B(y_i, r_i)\}$  such that  $\{B(w_j, \rho_j)\}$  are mutually disjoint and  $\{B(w_j, 5\rho_j)\}$  covers  $E_t$ . Then, by Lemma 2.1 and (2.2),

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{E_t} \delta(y)^{2\beta-d} dy &\leq \sum_j \int_{B(w_j, 5\rho_j) \cap G} \delta(y)^{2\beta-d} dy \\ &\leq c_1 \sum_j (5\rho_j)^{2\beta} \leq c_2 \sum_j \int_{B(w_j, \rho_j) \cap \partial D} d\mu(x) \int_{B(w_j, \rho_j) \cap \partial D} d\mu(z) \\ &\leq \frac{c_2}{t} \sum_j \int_{B(w_j, \rho_j) \cap \partial D} \int_{B(w_j, \rho_j) \cap \partial D} |h(x, z)| d\mu(x) d\mu(z). \end{aligned}$$

Noting that  $\{B(w_j, \rho_j)\}$  are mutually disjoint,

$$\nu_0(E_t) \leq \frac{c_2}{t} \iint |h(x, z)| d\mu(x) d\mu(z),$$

which shows (i).

The inequality (ii) deduces from (i) by the usual method. □

When  $G$  satisfies the condition (b), the following lemma is fundamental.

**Lemma 2.2** *Assume that  $G$  satisfies condition (b). Let  $0 < \epsilon \leq 3R$ ,  $0 < r \leq 3R$ ,  $z \in \partial D$  and put*

$$E_\epsilon = \{x \in G; \delta(x) < \epsilon\}.$$

*Then*

$$(2.3) \quad c_1 \epsilon^{d-\beta} r^\beta \leq \int_{E_\epsilon \cap B(z, r)} dx \leq c_2 \epsilon^{d-\beta} r^\beta,$$

where  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are constants independent of  $\epsilon$ ,  $r$  and  $z$ .

*Proof.* In [W4, Lemma 2.1] we proved a lemma corresponding to this one under more strong condition. But the method used in the proof of Lemma 2.1 in [W4] is available under our weaker assumption without any change.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.3** Suppose  $\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{G}$  satisfies the condition (b). Let  $d - \beta + \lambda > 0$  and  $1 < b \leq 11/10$ . Further let  $x_0 \in G \cap F_0$  and  $b\delta(x_0) \leq r \leq (3/2)R$ . Then

$$(2.4) \quad \int_{B(x_0, r) \cap G} \delta(y)^\lambda \leq c_1 r^{\lambda+d} \leq c_2 \int_{B(x_0, r) \cap (F_0 \setminus \overline{G})} \delta(y)^\lambda dy,$$

where  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are constants independent of  $x_0$  and  $r$ .

*Proof.* By (2.1) we get

$$\int_{B(x_0, r) \cap G} \delta(x)^\lambda dx \leq \int_{B(x'_0, 2r) \cap G} \delta(x)^\lambda dx \leq c_1 r^{\lambda+d},$$

where  $x'_0$  is a point of  $\partial D$  satisfying  $\delta(x) = |x_0 - x'_0|$ , which gives the first inequality of (2.4).

We next prove the second inequality of (2.4). First we assume that  $\lambda > 0$ . Let  $x_0 \in G \cap F_0$ ,  $b\delta(x_0) \leq r \leq (3/2)R$  and put

$$E_j = \{y \in F_0 \setminus \overline{G}; \delta(y)^\lambda < 2^{-j}\}.$$

Then  $y \in E_j$  implies  $\delta(y) < 2^{-j/\lambda}$ . Noting that  $r(1 - 1/b) \leq r - \delta(x_0)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} I &\equiv \int_{B(x_0, r) \cap (F_0 \setminus \overline{G})} \delta(y)^\lambda dy \geq \int_{B(x'_0, r(1-1/b)) \cap (F_0 \setminus \overline{G})} \delta(y)^\lambda dy \\ &\geq c_2 \sum_{j=j_0}^{\infty} 2^j \int_{B(x'_0, r(1-1/b)) \cap E_j} dy, \end{aligned}$$

where  $j_0$  is the integer satisfying

$$\left(2^{-1/\lambda}\right)^{j_0-1} > r(1 - 1/b) \geq \left(2^{-1/\lambda}\right)^{j_0}.$$

Noting that  $2^{-j/\lambda} \leq r(1 - 1/b) < r \leq (3/2)R$  for every  $j \geq j_0$ , we get, by Lemma 2.2,

$$\begin{aligned} I &\geq c_3 \sum_{j=j_0}^{\infty} 2^{-j} r^\beta (1 - 1/b)^\beta (2^{-j/\lambda})^{d-\beta} \\ &\geq c_4 \sum_{j=j_0}^{\infty} r^\beta 2^{-(1+(d-\beta)/\lambda)j} \geq c_5 2^{-(1+(d-\beta)/\lambda)j_0}. \end{aligned}$$



Noting that  $d - \beta + \lambda > 0$  and

$$2^{-(1+(d-\beta)/\lambda)j_0} = \left(2^{-j_0/\lambda}\right)^{\lambda+d-\beta} \geq c_6 (r(1-1/b))^{d-\beta-\lambda} = c_7 r^{\lambda+d-\beta},$$

we get

$$I \geq c_8 r^\beta r^{d-\beta+\lambda} = c_8 r_0^{d+\lambda}.$$

This gives the second inequality of (2.4) in case  $\lambda > 0$ .

In case  $\lambda < 0$ , we put

$$E_j = \{y \in F_0 \setminus \overline{G}; \delta(y)^\lambda > 2^j\}$$

and can prove the second inequality of (2.4) by the above method.

Finally, assume that  $\lambda = 0$ . Since  $\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{G}$  satisfies the condition (b), we have

$$\int_{B(x_0, r) \cap (F_0 \setminus \overline{G})} \delta(y)^\lambda dy \geq \int_{B(x'_0, r(1-1/b)) \cap (F_0 \setminus \overline{G})} dy \geq c_9 r^d.$$

Thus we also see that the second inequality of (2.4) holds.  $\square$

Let us prove Lemma 1.2 by using the above lemma.

*Proof of Lemma 1.2.* Since the assertion (ii) deduces from (i) by the usual method, we shall prove only (i). Let  $y \in E_t$ . Then there exists a ball  $B(y, r)$  such that  $b\delta(y) \leq r \leq R/4$  and

$$(2.5) \quad \int_{B(y, r)} |u(x)| d\tau_\lambda^-(x) > t \int_{B(y, r)} d\tau_\lambda^-(x).$$

Hence we choose  $\{y_j\} \subset E_t$  such that

$$E_s \subset \cup B(y_j, r_j), \quad b\delta(y_j) \leq r_j \leq \frac{R}{4}$$

and  $B(y, r) = B(y_j, r_j)$  satisfies (2.5).

Using Vilali's covering lemma, we select a subfamily  $\{B(w_k, \rho_k)\}$  of  $\{B(y_j, r_j)\}$  such that  $\{B(w_k, \rho_k)\}$  are mutually disjoint and

$$E_t \subset \cup_k B(w_k, 5\rho_k).$$

Then, by Lemma 2.3 and (2.5),

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_\lambda^+(E_t) &\leq \sum_k \tau_\lambda^+(B(w_k, 5\rho_k)) \leq c_1 (5\rho_k)^{\lambda+d} \\ &\leq c_2 \sum_k \int_{B(w_k, \rho_k)} d\tau_\lambda^- \leq \frac{c_2}{t} \sum_k \int_{B(w_k, \rho_k)} |u(x)| d\tau_\lambda^-(x). \end{aligned}$$

Noting that  $\{B(w_k, \rho_k)\}$  are mutually disjoint, we have the inequality of (i).  $\square$

### 3. Proof of Theorem 1

In this section we shall prove Theorem 1 by using Lemma 1.1.

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let  $\{Q_j\}$  be the Whitney decomposition of  $\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \partial D$  in Proposition A. Denote by  $l_j$  and  $a_j$  the common side-length of  $Q_j$  and a boundary point satisfying  $\text{dist}(\partial D, Q_j) = \text{dist}(a_j, O_j)$ , respectively. Put

$$b_j = \frac{1}{\mu(B(a_j, \eta l_j))} \int_{B(a_j, \eta l_j)} f(w) d\mu(w),$$

where  $\eta$  is a fixed positive real number satisfying  $0 < \eta < 1/4$  and used in the definition  $\mathcal{E}(f)$ .

With the aid of Proposition A we have, for each  $y \in Q_j$

$$\begin{aligned} & |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f - b_j)(y)| \\ & \leq c_1 \frac{1}{l_j^{\beta+1} l_j^\beta} \int_{B(a_j, sl_j)} d\mu(z) \int_{B(a_j, \eta l_j)} |f(z) - f(w)| d\mu(w) \\ & \leq c_2 l_j^{\beta/p + \alpha - 2\beta - 1} \int_{B(a_j, sl_j)} d\mu(z) \int_{B(a_j, \eta l_j)} \frac{|f(z) - f(w)|}{|z - w|^{\beta/p + \alpha}} d\mu(w), \end{aligned}$$

where  $s = 6\sqrt{d}$ . On the other hand let  $y \in Q_j$  and  $x_j$  be a point in  $Q_j$  satisfying  $|x_j - a_j| = \text{dist}(a_j, Q_j)$ . If  $z \in B(a_j, sl_j) \cap \partial D$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} |y - z| & \leq |y - x_j| + |x_j - a_j| + |a_j - z| \\ & \leq \sqrt{d}l_j + 4\sqrt{d}l_j + sl_j = 11\sqrt{d}l_j. \end{aligned}$$

Putting  $s' = 11\sqrt{d}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (3.1) \quad & |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f - b_j)(y)| \delta(y)^{1-\alpha-\beta/p} \\ & \leq c_3 \frac{1}{l_j^{2\beta}} \int_{B(y, s'l_j) \cap \partial D} d\mu(z) \int_{B(y, s'l_j) \cap \partial D} |h(z, w)| d\mu(w), \end{aligned}$$

where  $h(z, w) = \frac{|f(z) - f(w)|}{|z - w|^{\beta/p + \alpha}}$ .

Put  $s'' = R/(s'20\sqrt{d})$ . First, let  $l_j \leq s''$  and  $x \in Q_j$ . Then

$$s' \delta(x) \leq s' 5\sqrt{d}l_j \leq \frac{R}{4}.$$

Noting that

$$\mu(B(y, s'l_j) \cap \partial D) \leq \mu(B(a_j, 2s'l_j) \cap \partial D) \leq c_4 l_j^\beta,$$

we have, by Lemma 1.2 and (3.1),

$$|\nabla \mathcal{E}(f - b_j)(y)| \delta(y)^{1-\alpha-\beta/p} \leq c_5 M(\mu \times \mu) h(y).$$

By virtue of Proposition A, (iv) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{l_j \leq s''} \int_{Q_j} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy \\ & \leq \sum_{l_j \leq s''} \int_{Q_j} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f - b_j)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p-p\alpha-\beta} \delta(y)^{2\beta-d} dy \\ & \leq c_6 \sum_{l_j \leq s''} \int_{Q_j} M(\mu \times \mu) h(y)^p d\nu_0(y) \leq c_7 \iint h(z, w)^p d\mu(z) \mu(w). \end{aligned}$$

We next assume that  $l_j \geq s''$ . Then, by  $y \in Q_j$ , Proposition A, (vi) implies

$$|\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)| \leq c_8 l_j^{-\beta-1} \int_{B(a_j, sl_j)} |f(z)| d\mu(z) \leq c_9 (s'')^{-\beta/p-1} \|f\|_p.$$

Noting that  $\text{supp } \mathcal{E}(f) \subset B(0, 2R)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{l_j \geq s''} \int_{Q_j} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy \\ & \leq c_{10} (s'')^{-\beta-p} \|f\|_p^p \int_{B(0, 2R)} (2R)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy \leq c_{11} \|f\|_p^p. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^d} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy \leq c_{12} \left( \iint \frac{|f(z, w)|^p}{|z - w|^{\beta+p\alpha}} d\mu(z) d\mu(w) + \|f\|_p^p \right),$$

which completes the proof. □

#### 4. Proof of Theorem 2

In this section we prove Theorem 2. The proof of this theorem is essentially same as that of Theorem in [W4]. But we need improve on it to be available in the case  $\beta = d - 1$ .

*Proof of Theorem 2.* (i) We first show that

$$(4.1) \quad \left( \int |K_1 f(z)|^p d\mu(z) \right)^{1/p} \leq c_1 \|f\|_{B_{\alpha, p}^-}.$$

Set  $q = p/(p-1)$ . Choosing  $\epsilon_1 > 0$  satisfying  $\epsilon_1 < \alpha$ , we have, for  $z \in \partial D$ ,

$$|K_1 f(z)| \leq c_2 \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p(1-\alpha-(d-\beta)/p)} |z-y|^{-\beta+\epsilon_1 p} dy \right)^{1/p} \\ \times \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}} \delta(y)^{-q(1-\alpha-(d-\beta)/p)} |z-y|^{q(1-d+\beta/p-\epsilon_1)} dy \right)^{1/q}.$$

Noting that  $-q(1-\alpha-(d-\beta)/p)+d-\beta > 0$  and  $-q(1-\alpha-(d-\beta)/p)+q(1-d+\beta/p-\epsilon_1) = q(\alpha-\epsilon_1) > 0$  and using Lemma 2.3 in [W1], we get

$$|K_1 f(z)| \leq c_3 \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p(1-\alpha-(d-\beta)/p)} |z-y|^{-\beta+\epsilon_1 p} dy \right)^{1/p}.$$

Hence

$$\int |K_1 f(z)|^p d\mu(z) \\ \leq c_4 \int_{\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p(1-\alpha-(d-\beta)/p)} dy \int |z-y|^{-\beta+\epsilon_1 p} d\mu(z) \\ \leq c_5 \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-}^p.$$

This shows (4.1).

We next prove that there exists  $t_0 > 0$  and  $c_6 > 0$  such that

$$(4.2.) \quad \left( \int_{D \cap \{\delta(x) \leq t_0 R\}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(K_1 f)(x)|^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dx \right)^{1/p} \leq c_6 \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-}$$

for every  $f \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-$ .

To do so, let  $Q \in \mathcal{V}$ ,  $Q \subset D$  and  $a$  be a boundary point satisfying  $\text{dist}(\partial D, Q) = \text{dist}(a, Q)$ . Further denote by  $x_0$  and  $l$  the center and the common side length of  $Q$ , respectively. We set

$$\Phi f(x_0) = \int_{\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}} \langle \nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y), \nabla_y N(x_0 - y) \rangle dy.$$

Let  $x \in Q$ . We write, by Proposition A,

$$I(x) \equiv \left| \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}(K_1 f - \Phi f(x_0))}{\partial x_i}(x) \right| \\ \leq c_7 \delta(x)^{-1-\beta} \int_{B(a, sl)} d\mu(z) \\ \int_{B(0, 2R) \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla_y \mathcal{E}(f)(y)| |\nabla_y N(z - y) - \nabla_y N(x_0 - y)| dy,$$

where  $s = 6\sqrt{d}$ . Note that a cube  $Q \in \mathcal{V}$  with the common side length  $l$  has the following property.

$$l\sqrt{d} \leq \text{dist}(Q, \partial D) \leq 4l\sqrt{d}.$$

Since  $l\sqrt{d} \leq \delta(x)$ , we write

$$\begin{aligned} I(x) &\leq c_8 \delta(x)^{-1-\beta} \int_{B(a, 6\delta(x))} d\mu(z) \int_{B(z, \delta(x)) \cap (\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D})} \frac{|\nabla_y \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|}{|z-y|^{d-1}} dy \\ &\quad + c_8 \delta(x)^{-1-\beta} \int_{B(a, 6\delta(x))} d\mu(z) \int_{B(x_0, \delta(x)) \cap (\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D})} \frac{|\nabla_y \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|}{|x_0-y|^{d-1}} dy \\ &\quad + c_8 \delta(x)^{-\beta} \int_{B(a, 6\delta(x))} d\mu(z) \int_{\{|z-y| > \delta(x)\} \cap (\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D})} \frac{|\nabla_y \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|}{|z-y|^d} dy \\ &\quad + c_8 \delta(x)^{-\beta} \int_{B(a, 6\delta(x))} d\mu(z) \int_{\{|x_0-y| > \delta(x)\} \cap (\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D})} \frac{|\nabla_y \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|}{|x_0-y|^d} dy \\ &\equiv I_1(x) + I_2(x) + I_3(x) + I_4(x). \end{aligned}$$

We set  $G = D$  and estimate  $I_1(x)$ . If  $y \in \mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}$ ,  $z \in B(a, 6\delta(x))$  and  $|y-z| \leq \delta(x)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} |x-y| &\leq |x-a| + |a-z| + |z-y| \\ &\leq 2\delta(x) + 6\delta(x) + \delta(x) \leq 2^{k_0+1}\delta(x), \end{aligned}$$

where  $k_0 = 3$ . Since  $d-\beta-1+\alpha > 0$ , we pick  $\epsilon > 0$  satisfying  $d-\beta-1+\alpha-\epsilon > 0$ , and put  $t = q(1-\alpha-(d-\beta)/p+\epsilon/p)$  and  $\lambda = -t-\epsilon$ . Note that  $d-\beta+\lambda = q(d-\beta-1+\alpha-\epsilon) > 0$ . We set  $F_1(y) = |\nabla_y \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|\delta(y)^t$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (4.3) \quad I_1(x)\delta(x)^t &\leq c_9 \delta(x)^{t-1-\beta} \int_{\{|x-y| \leq 2^{k_0+1}\delta(x)\} \cap (\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D})} F_1(y)\delta(y)^\lambda dy \\ &\quad \int_{|z-y| \leq \delta(x)} |z-y|^{1-d+\epsilon} d\mu(z) \\ &\leq c_{10} \delta(x)^{t-d+\epsilon} \int_{\{|x-y| \leq 2^{k_0+1}\delta(x)\} \cap (\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D})} F_1(y)\delta(y)^\lambda dy. \end{aligned}$$

We set  $b = 11/10$  in the definition of  $M(\tau_\lambda^-)$ . Further set  $t_0 = \frac{1}{20}2^{-k_0-1}$  and

$$D_1 = \{x \in D; \delta(x) \leq t_0 R\}.$$

Suppose  $x \in Q$  and  $Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset$  and  $x_1 \in Q \cap D_1$ . Then  $\delta(x) \leq 5\sqrt{d}l \leq 5\delta(x_1) \leq 5t_0 R$ . Hence  $2^{k_0+1}\delta(x) \leq R/4$  and  $2^{k_0+1} > \frac{11}{10}$ . Noting that

$$\int_{B(x, r) \cap (F_0 \setminus \overline{D})} \delta(y)^\lambda dy \leq c_{11} r^{d+\lambda},$$

we have, by (4.3),

$$I_1(x) \leq c_{12}M(\tau_\lambda^-)F_1(x).$$

We next estimate  $I_2(x)$ . To do so, let  $Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset$  and  $x \in Q$ . Then the inequalities

$$\delta(x_0) \geq \delta(x) - |x - x_0| \geq \frac{\sqrt{d}}{2}l \quad \text{and} \quad \delta(x) \leq 5\sqrt{d}l$$

imply  $\delta(x_0) \geq \frac{\delta(x)}{10}$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} I_2(x)\delta(x)^t &\leq c_{13}\delta(x)^{t-1-\beta}\delta(x)^\beta\delta(x)^{1-d+\epsilon} \int_{\{|x_0-y|\leq\delta(x)\}\cap(\mathbf{R}^d\setminus\overline{D})} F_1(y)\delta(y)^\lambda dy \\ &\leq c_{14}\delta(x)^{-\lambda-d} \int_{\{|x-y|\leq 2\delta(x)\}\cap(\mathbf{R}^d\setminus\overline{D})} F(y)\delta(y)^\lambda dy. \end{aligned}$$

Noting that  $2\delta(x) \leq 2^{k_0+1}\delta(x) \leq R/4$ , we also get

$$I_2(x) \leq c_{15}M(\tau_\lambda^-)F_1(x).$$

Since  $pt + \lambda = p - p\alpha - d + \beta$ , we have, by Lemma 1.2,

$$\begin{aligned} (4.4) \quad &\sum_{Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset} \sum_{j=1}^2 \int_Q I_j(x)^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dx \\ &= \sum_{Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset} \sum_{j=1}^2 \int_Q I_j(x)^p \delta(x)^{pt} d\tau_\lambda^+(x) \\ &\leq c_{16} \sum_{Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset} \int_Q M(\tau_\lambda^-) F_1(x)^p d\tau_\lambda^+(x) \leq c_{17} \int_{F_0 \setminus \overline{D}} F_1(y)^p d\tau_\lambda^-(y) \\ &\leq c_{17} \int_{\mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla_y \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(y)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy \end{aligned}$$

We next consider  $I_3(x)$ . Let  $x \in Q$  and  $Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset$  and  $x_1 \in Q \cap D_1$ , and put  $u = -q(1 - \alpha - (d - \beta)/p)$  and  $F_2(y) = |\nabla_y \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|\delta(y)^{-u}$ . We write

$$\begin{aligned} &I_3(x)\delta(x)^{-u} \\ &\leq c_{18} \sum_{k=1}^m \delta(x)^{-u-\beta} \int_{B(a, 6\delta(x))} d\mu(z) \int_{2^{k-1}\delta(x) < |z-y| \leq 2^k\delta(x)} F_2(y)\delta(y)^u \frac{1}{|z-y|^d} dy \\ &\quad + c_{18}\delta(x)^{-u-\beta} \int_{B(a, 6\delta(x))} d\mu(z) \int_{|z-y| > 2^m\delta(x)} F_2(y)\delta(y)^u \frac{1}{|z-y|^d} dy \\ &\equiv I_{31}(x) + I_{32}(x), \end{aligned}$$

where  $m$  is the greatest integer satisfying  $2^{k_0+m}\delta(x) \leq R/4$ .

If  $1 \leq k \leq m$  and  $|z - y| \leq 2^k\delta(x)$ , then  $|x - y| \leq 2^{k_0+k}\delta(x) \leq R/4$  and  $2^{k_0+k} \geq 2^{k_0+1} \geq 2$ . Using Lemma 1.2 and noting that  $u < 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} I_{31}(x) &\leq c_{19} \sum_{k=1}^m \delta(x)^{-u} 2^{-(k-1)d} \delta(x)^{-d} \int_{|x-y| \leq 2^{k_0+k}\delta(x)} F_2(y) \delta(y)^u dy \\ &\leq c_{20} \sum_{k=1}^m (2^u)^k (2^{k_0+k}\delta(x))^{-u-d} \int_{|x-y| \leq 2^{k_0+k}\delta(x)} F_2(y) \delta(y)^u dy \\ &\leq c_{21} \left( \sum_{k=1}^m (2^u)^k \right) M(\tau_u^-) F_2(x) \leq c_{22} M(\tau_u^-) F_2(x). \end{aligned}$$

We next estimate  $I_{32}(x)$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} I_{32} &\leq c_{23} \delta(x)^{-u-\beta} (2^m \delta(x))^{-d} \delta(x)^\beta \int_{B(0,2R) \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)| dy \\ &= c_{23} \delta(x)^{-u-d} (2^m)^{-d} \int_{B(0,2R) \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)| dy \end{aligned}$$

and  $R/4 < 2^{k_0+m+1}\delta(x)$ , we get

$$I_{32}(x) \leq c_{24} \delta(x)^{-u} \int_{B(0,2R) \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)| dy.$$

Similarly we can estimate

$$I_4(x) \leq c_{25} \left( M(\tau_u^-) F_2(x) + \delta(x)^{-u} \int_{B(0,2R) \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)| dy \right).$$

Noting that  $-pu + u = p - p\alpha - d + \beta$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset} \sum_{j=3}^4 \int_Q I_j(x)^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dx \\ &= \sum_{Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset} \sum_{j=3}^4 \int_Q I_j(x)^p \delta(x)^{-pu} d\tau_u^+(x) \\ &\leq c_{26} \sum_{Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset} \int_Q M(\tau_u^-) F_2(x)^p d\tau_u^+(x) \\ &+ c_{26} \sum_{Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset} \int_Q \delta(x)^{-pu} d\tau_u^-(x) \left( \int_{B(0,2R) \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)| dy \right)^p \\ &\equiv J_1 + J_2 \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 1.2 yields

$$J_1 \leq c_{27} \int_{F_0 \setminus \overline{D}} F_2(y)^p d\tau_u^-(y) \leq c_{28} \int_{B(0,2R) \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy.$$

We next estimate  $J_2$ . Noting that  $-(p-1)u > 0$  and  $d-\beta+u = q(\alpha-1+d-\beta) > 0$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} J_2 &\leq c_{29} \int_D \delta(x)^{-(p-1)u} dx \left( \int_{B(0,2R) \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)| dy \right)^p \\ &\leq c_{30} \left( \int_{B(0,2R) \setminus \overline{D}} |\nabla \mathcal{E}(f)(y)|^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dy \right) \left( \int_{B(0,2R) \setminus \overline{D}} \delta(y)^u dy \right)^{p/q} \\ &\leq c_{31} \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-}^p. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we see that

$$(4.5) \quad \sum_{Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset} \sum_{j=3}^4 \int_Q I_j(x)^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} \leq c_{32} \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-}^p$$

From (4.4) and (4.5) we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{D_1} |\nabla_x \mathcal{E}(K_1 f)(x)|^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dx \\ &\leq \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{V}(D), Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset} \int_Q |\nabla_x \mathcal{E}(K_1 f - \Phi f(x_0))(x)|^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dx \\ &\leq c_{33} \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-}^p, \end{aligned}$$

which shows (4.2).

Finally we shall show that

$$(4.6) \quad \int_{D \cap \{\delta(x) \geq t_0 R\}} |\nabla_x \mathcal{E}(K_1 f)(x)|^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dx \leq c_{34} \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-}^p.$$

To do so, let  $k_1$  be the greatest integer such that  $Q \cap \{x \in D; \delta(x) \geq t_0 R\} \neq \emptyset$  for some  $k_1$ -cube  $Q$ . Let  $Q$  be a  $k$ -cube satisfying  $k \leq k_1$  and put  $2^{-k} = l$ . Then, by Proposition A,

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_Q |\nabla_x \mathcal{E}(K_1 f)(x)|^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dx \\ &\leq c_{35} \int_Q \delta(x)^{-p(1+\beta)} \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dx \left( \int_{B(a,sl)} |K_1 f(z)| d\mu(z) \right)^p \\ &\leq c_{36} l^{-p\alpha} \|K_1 f\|_p^p. \end{aligned}$$



By [W1, Lemma 3.3] the number of  $k$ -cube included in  $D$  is at most  $c_{37}2^{k\beta}$ . Therefore we have

$$\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{V}_k(D), Q \cap D_1 \neq \emptyset} \int_Q |\nabla_x \mathcal{E}(K_1 f)(x)|^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dx \leq c_{38} l^{-p\alpha-\beta} \|K_1 f\|_p^p,$$

where  $\mathcal{V}_k(D) = \{Q \in \mathcal{V}(D); Q \text{ is a } k\text{-cube}\}$ . This and (4.1) imply

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{D \cap \{\delta(x) \geq t_0 R\}} |\nabla_x \mathcal{E}(K_1 f)(x)|^p \delta(x)^{p-p\alpha-d+\beta} dx \\ & \leq c_{39} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{k_1} (2^{-k})^{-p\alpha-\beta} \|K_1 f\|_p^p \leq c_{40} \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-}^p, \end{aligned}$$

which gives (4.6).

Thus we see that  $K_1$  is a bounded operator from  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-$  to  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^+$ .

(ii) Setting  $G = \mathbf{R}^d \setminus \overline{D}$ , we can also prove by a similar method that  $K_2$  is a bounded operator from  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^+$  to  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha,p}^-$ . □

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